

82-2195

9 September 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Regulations Control Division,
Office of Information Services, DDA

FROM:

[Redacted]

Executive Officer,
Office of Medical Services

STAT

SUBJECT: Publication of Employee Bulletin

38 1-2

It is requested that the attached draft of "Voluntary Influenza Virus Immunization" be published as an ALL employee bulletin (opposed to 1-6 distribution) and that it be published on 5 October 1982.

[Redacted]

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Attachment

cc: EO/DDA

82-2195



EMPLOYEE BULLETIN

EB No. 881

VOLUNTARY INFLUENZA VIRUS IMMUNIZATION

1. The Office of Medical Services will administer immunizations against influenza from 25 through 29 October 1981. Immunizations will be administered at the Headquarters Building between 7:00 and 4:00 p.m. Schedules for immunizations at Agency satellite buildings will be individually arranged by the Nursing Office. Employees will be advised by their administrative offices of the time and place for the immunizations for their components.

2. Influenza virus infections may be asymptomatic or they may produce a spectrum of symptoms varying from fever, chills, cough, and muscle aches to pneumonia and death. Influenza-related deaths occur primarily in the elderly, children, and those individuals with chronic illnesses such as diabetes or heart, lung, or kidney disease.

3. No evidence has been presented to suggest that influenza immunization of pregnant women presents any special maternal or fetal risk. Pregnant women, therefore, should be evaluated for influenza vaccination according to the same criteria applied to other individuals.

4. The influenza vaccine for 1982-83 will consist of an inactivated trivalent preparation of A/Brazil, A/Bangkok, and B/Singapore. A single dose is recommended for employees, regardless of age, who have received at least one dose of influenza vaccine in the preceding three years. Those 28 years old and younger who are receiving influenza vaccine for the first time should have two doses four or more weeks apart. Employees 29 years of age or older need only one dose.

5. Fever, malaise, muscle aches, and other toxic symptoms may occur six to twelve hours after immunization and last one to two days. These symptoms are usually attributed to the virus itself, even though the vaccine is an inactivated preparation. In some individuals, an immediate allergic reaction occurs and is attributable to a vaccine component, usually egg protein. Those individuals

with known allergy to eggs should not receive the influenza vaccine. In an extremely small percentage of individuals (less than 1 in 100,000), serious neurological symptoms may be a complication. This condition, known as Guillain-Barre Syndrome, is characterized by ascending paralysis and is usually self-limited and reversible. In some individuals, however, there may be residual weakness or paralysis. The mortality rate among those individuals who get this Syndrome is 5 percent.

6. The Director of Medical Services recommends influenza immunization for older employees and those with chronic illnesses such as diabetes or heart, lung, or kidney disease.

DISTRIBUTION: ALL EMPLOYEES